

## Sample articles for organizations to use to reach customers, taxpayers, employees etc.

*Provide the sections of tax information on your Web site or any other communication vehicle to remind individuals and families that April 15 is fast approaching and there's still time to file.*

**NOTE TO EDITOR:** You may consider using as daily reminders information below, as tax tips or reminders to your customers as the [April 15 tax deadline](#) approaches.

**Do you want to embed a tax-day countdown widget into your Web site?** Use this link to download it to your communication platforms:

<http://www.clearspring.com/widgets/4b4e4ccdc98d3da5?p=->

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## April 15 is fast approaching... but there's still time and there's free help

One in five people wait until the final week to file their taxes by the April 15 deadline. Most of these last-minute taxpayers owe taxes and their returns tend to be more complicated. Remember, the IRS can help make taxes less taxing.

### E-file

In the final days before the tax deadline, the IRS strongly urges everyone who hasn't filed their federal return to do so electronically using IRS *e-file*. It's fast, easy and is proven to have one of the lowest error rates, includes fast acknowledgement that the IRS has received their return, and refunds are really fast, usually within 10 days using Direct Deposit. Additionally, if money is owed, taxpayers can schedule an automatic payment anytime up to April 15.

**NOTE TO EDITOR: Below are additional informational items.**

- [E-file](#) – a direct link to IRS.gov e-file information
  - **Want to embed a tax-day countdown widget into your Web site?** Visit here to get it: <http://www.clearspring.com/widgets/4b4e4ccdc98d3da5?p=->
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### FreeFile

Taxpayers who make \$57,000 or less can now access free software to help them prepare and file their federal returns. For those with higher income levels, the IRS now provides Free File Fillable Forms, electronic versions of the paper forms which allow them to prepare and file electronically. Both are available on the IRS.gov Web site.

**NOTE TO EDITOR: Below are additional informational items.**

- [FreeFile](#) – a link to e-filing taxes on-line for free
  - **Want to embed a tax-day countdown widget into your Web site?** Visit here to get it: <http://www.clearspring.com/widgets/4b4e4ccdc98d3da5?p=->
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### Where's My Refund?

*Where's My Refund* is an online tool that provides refund information for the most current tax year filed, generally available 72 hours after the IRS acknowledge receipt of an e-filed return, or three to four weeks after mailing a paper return.

**NOTE TO EDITOR: *Below are additional informational items.***

- [Where's My Refund?](#) - online tool to check the status of a refund
  - **Want to embed a tax-day countdown widget into your Web site?** Visit here to get it: <http://www.clearspring.com/widgets/4b4e4ccdc98d3da5?p=->
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### Face-to-face Tax Assistance

Taxpayers who make less than \$49,000 can receive tax return preparation help at their nearest IRS Taxpayer Assistance Center or through a local Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program or a Tax Counseling for the Elderly tax preparation site. Here in **[add city and state]**, the nearest IRS office is located at **[address of IRS offices using [this link](#) and clicking on your state.]**.

To locate the nearest VITA site, call 1-800-906-9887. Members of the U.S. military worldwide can receive free tax assistance through the VITA partnership with the Armed Forces Tax Council. These VITA sites provide free tax advice, tax preparation and assistance to military members and their families.

**NOTE TO EDITOR: *Below are additional informational items.***

- [Locate an IRS office in your state](#)
  - **Want to embed a tax-day countdown widget into your Web site?** Visit here to get it: <http://www.clearspring.com/widgets/4b4e4ccdc98d3da5?p=->
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### What if I cannot file by April 15 and need to file for extension?

If people cannot file their taxes by the April 15 deadline, they can get an automatic six-month extension of time to file until October 15. However, this filing extension does not provide more time to pay any taxes due. If 90 percent of the total tax due is not paid by the April deadline, the taxpayer may be subject to an Estimated Tax Penalty. To obtain an extension, taxpayers must file a Form 4868, *Application for Automatic Extension of Time to File U.S. Individual Income Tax Return*. The Form 4868 is available at IRS.gov, but the easiest way to file a Form 4868 is through Free File at [www.irs.gov/freefile](http://www.irs.gov/freefile). A Form 4868 may be mailed to you by calling 800-TAX-FORM (800-829-3676).

Taxpayers who cannot pay the full tax amount owed should still file their return by the April 15 deadline and pay as much as they can to avoid penalties and interest. They should then contact IRS by calling 1-800-829-1040 to discuss payment options. IRS may be able to provide a short-term payment extension, an installment agreement or an offer to compromise. Most taxpayers eligible for an installment agreement can apply using the Web-based Online Payment Agreement application available on IRS.gov.

**NOTE TO EDITOR: *Below are additional informational items.***

- [Help in Filing for an extension for federal taxes](#)
- [Form 4868, Application for Automatic Extension of Time to File US Individual Income Tax Return](#)
- **Want to embed a tax-day countdown widget into your Web site?** Visit here to get it: <http://www.clearspring.com/widgets/4b4e4ccdc98d3da5?p=->